

**Amendment and Response**

Applicant: Richard L. Schober

Serial No.: 09/977,670

Filed: October 12, 2001

Docket No.: 10011259/A310.256.101

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO PROCESS A MULTICAST REQUEST PERTAINING TO A PACKET RECEIVED AT AN INTERCONNECT DEVICE

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**REMARKS**

The following remarks are made in response to the Office Action mailed August 19, 2005. Claims 1-31 were rejected. Claims 3-13, 16-25, and 27-31 have been objected to. With this Response, claims 1-3, 14-17, 21-22, and 24-26, have been amended. Claims 1-31 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

**Claim Objections**

The Examiner objected to claim 2 because of an informality.

Applicants has amended claim 2 to correct the informality. Applicants believe claim 2 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the objection to claim 2 be withdrawn.

**Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 14, 15, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being unpatentable over the McKeown U.S. Patent No. 6,212,182 in view of the Khan et al. U.S. Application Publication No. 2002/0143951.

The Examiner admits that McKeown patent fails to teach the limitations of independent claims 1, 14 and 26 of spawning a number of unicast transfer requests based on multicast transfer requests. The Examiner states that the Khan et al. Application teaches this limitation.

Amended independent claim 1 clarifies that the unicast transfer requests are specified by a set of bits within a multicast vector. The Khan et al. patent does not teach or suggest the limitations of amended independent claim 1 of the unicast transfer requests being specified by a set of bits within a multicast vector.

In addition, amended independent claims 1, 14, and 26 include the further limitations of generating a spawn count of the number of unicast transfer requests spawned based on the multicast transfer requests. The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest generating a spawn count of the number of unicast transfer requests spawned based on the multicast transfer request.

Therefore, the McKeown patent and the Khan et al. Application do not teach or suggest alone or in combination all of the limitations of amended independent claims 1, 14

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and 26. In addition, dependent claim 2 further defines patentably distinct independent claim 1; and dependent claim 15 further defines patentably distinct independent claim 14.

Therefore, these dependent claims are also believed to be allowable.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection to claims 1-2, 14, 15, and 26, and request allowance of these claims.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner objected to claims 3-13, 16-25, and 27-31 for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In this office action independent claims 1, 14, and 26 have been amended.

Dependent claims 3-13 further define patentably distinct independent claim 1; dependent claims 16-25 further define patentably distinct independent claim 14; and dependent claims 27-31 further define patentably distinct independent claims 26. Therefore these dependent claims are believed to be allowable in dependent form. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to claims 3-13, 16-25, and 27-31 be withdrawn and these claims be allowed in dependent form.

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**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-31 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-31 is respectfully requested.

No fees are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(h)(i). However, if such fees are required, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1078.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

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Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Patrick G. Billig at Telephone No. (612) 573-2003, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005 or Pamela L. Kee at Telephone No. (408) 553-3059, Facsimile No. (408) 553-3063. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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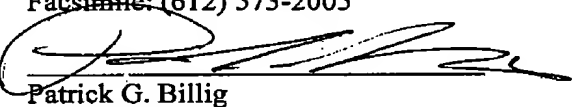
Respectfully submitted,

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**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on this 21 day of November, 2005.

By   
Name: Patrick G. Billig